90% support staff say 'NO'

By DOUG MORTON
Staff Writer

Ninety per cent of Niagara College support staff voted to reject the latest contract offer in last week's provincewide vote.

Meg Rose, president of local 243, the college's Ontario Public Service Employees Union, said "we got all we were asking for," referring to her hope the members would reject the offer and show their strength against accepting the 2.7 per cent increase offered.

"We know there's not a lot of money in the kitty, but we know there's more than that (2.7 per cent)," she said.

The rejection is "part of the ongoing process...the union and management now have a clearer view of the issues to guide them in further contract negotiations," Carol Boettcher, college vice-president of human resources, said.

Of Niagara College's 185 support staff eligible to vote, 135, or 73 per cent, voted. Nineteen members were sick, on vacation or on maternity leave. Across the province, 83 per cent of the 6,400 support staff at colleges rejected the offer.

The main issue in the negotiations is wages. Workers now earn between $10.88 and $20.47 an hour. The Council of Regents, who govern the 23 Ontario colleges, were expected to offer a five per cent package when the contract expired Aug. 31 but offered 0.92 per cent after the province announced budget restraints early in September.

Ms. Rose said the 2.7 per cent offer "is simply not enough."

"With them offering us this under a one-year contract, we know there will be nothing next year," she said.

The support staff include maintenance, clerical, child-care, cafeteria and cleaning workers.

NIAGARA NEWS

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12 pages

NIAGARA COLLEGE
LEARNING
RESOURCE CENTRE

'I vant to extract the facts.'

Happy Halloween

Official visit

During a tour of Niagara College, Tuesday, Oct. 22, Deputy Minister of Education for Ontario Bernard Shapiro receives copies of the Niagara News from Carol Kersteman, a second-year journalism-print student. Photo by Jason Darrah

Name change discussed

Creating cohesion among programs is behind discussions to possibly rename the Applied Arts division at Niagara College.

Under the direction of Larry Taylor, who becomes the new Applied Arts director on Nov. 1, more closely related programs may be grouped, one being a focus on media and design arts.

"It's an idea whose time is going to come," said David Schleich, college vice-president of academics.

Mr. Schleich said the concept is to look at ways of organizing programs so they are "more strategically positioned...more coherent. We're going to try and bring programs together that are more related to each other."

Mr. Taylor said, "If I understand the concepts that he's trying to put together, I think it's a great idea. That's why I went out for this job. I think it's really exciting." Mr. Taylor is the coordinator of the Broadcast, Radio, Television and Film program.

Discussions will continue over the next year. He said plans may be finalized by winter or early fall.

Niagara students gain awareness of barriers to handicapped

By DIANA HARRIS
Staff Writer

Going to the washroom or using the staircase at Niagara College isn't usually a problem unless the student is in a wheelchair or uses crutches.

This point was clearly made to several Interior Design program students on Oct. 15 as they battled college facilities under the direction of Zsu Zsa Harmas, manager for the Barrier Free Design Centre's education program in Toronto.

Karen Thiessen, 25, a first-year student, spent the morning on crutches trying to negotiate the stairs. "It is very difficult. The floors are slippery, all the doors are heavy and the handrails on the staircase don't continue through on the landings," she said.

Ms. Harmas took several students into the college's washrooms. "The problem with segregated washrooms is that the 'helper' may not be of the same sex," she said. This means students may have to navigate the washrooms by themselves, and that could involve loss of dignity. It's not unusual for people to get stuck in the cubicles."

Kelly Teshima, 19, a second-year student, became stuck in one of the cubicles while using a wheelchair. "I felt helpless," she said.

A particular problem that many students pointed out was a vestibule in a women's washroom with double doors.

"There was insufficient lighting and the doors were difficult to operate," said Ms. Teshima. "I believe it could be dangerous for such a woman in a wheelchair to use the vestibule because of the insufficient lighting."

Harold Johnson, a second-year interior design student, struggles to get out of a darkened washroom vestibule, in an experiment that showed many inconveniences to physically challenged people built into contempory building designs.
Photo by Jason Darrah

Extra hour of sleep

On Sunday, Oct. 27 at 2 a.m., Daylight Saving Time ends.

Make sure you remember to turn clocks back one hour to return to Standard Time.

The idea of daylight saving time was introduced during the First World War as a way to save coal, used in the production of electricity for light.

The concept of saving daylight was first suggested in an essay by Benjamin Franklin in 1784.

However, in 1907, an Englishman, William Willett, campaigned for a definite plan to save daylight. The House of Commons rejected many bills for changing the clocks between 1908-1916. In May 1916, one month after the death of Mr. Willett, a daylight saving plan was adopted by the British.

Daylight saving time begins on the first Sunday in April and ends on the last Sunday in October.

The Daylight Saving Time Act fell into disuse in 1918, but on Sept. 20, 1940, daylight saving time was used for all purposes in Canada. This order was revoked Sept. 30, 1945.

Inside the News

Precedent set

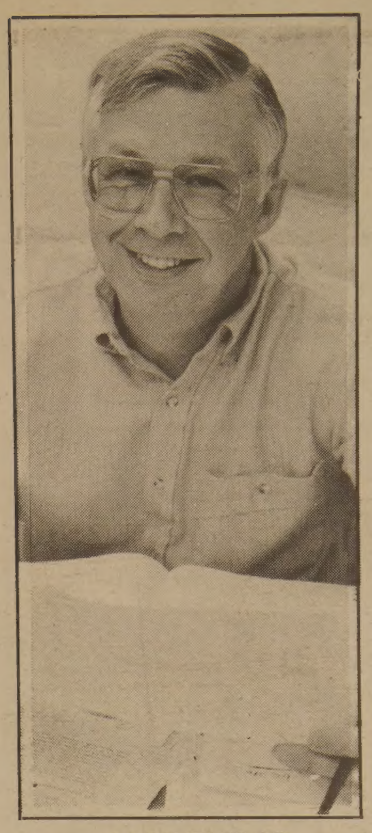
Niagara Knights win exhibition hockey games against Conestoga College and the University of Buffalo, both by a three goal lead. See page 11.

Monster Mash

SAC holds first annual Halloween costume party at After Hours. Bring a pumpkin for a prize. See page 8.

Knights triumph

New director of Niagara College's marketing and communications department sets precedent by being a Niagara College journalism graduate. See page 2.



LARRY TAYLOR

New head takes helm applied art

By LYNN DRAPEAU
Staff Writer

The position for director of the Applied Arts division has been filled.

The new director is Larry Taylor, co-ordinator of the Broadcast, Radio, Television and Film program. He assumes his post Nov. 1.

Mr. Taylor said he's "looking forward to working with other people in the college." He pointed out that "when you're with one program, you have a tendency to live in that program area." Now, however, Mr. Taylor will be able to get to know more teachers in the college and "hopefully help them with what they're trying to do."

Co-ordinator of his program for 19 years, Mr. Taylor said he recognizes the change and says he feels "ready to try something new."

Mr. Taylor said he will not look forward to leaving the students. "What I'm going to miss is working with the students," he said. "I've really enjoyed the teaching part of it. I enjoy the students and the classes."

Mr. Taylor has been at Niagara College for 21 years, and said he feels now is an exciting time because there are a lot of things going on. For example, there has been some collaboration between journalism-print students and broadcast, radio, television and film students for the first time.

The Applied Arts division has been successful, he said, and "I'd like to help them continue to be successful."

Because the Applied Arts division has had such great directors, "I've got big shoes to fill."

He said he hopes to fill them well.

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Niagara journalism graduate new director

By ABIGAIL KELLY
Staff Writer

The new director of Niagara College's marketing and communications department has set a milestone for the college and the department.

Lyn Russo (nee Larmour) is the first college director who is also a Niagara College graduate. Previously, the positions of president, vice-president and director were held by university graduates.

Mrs. Russo, 40, began her post Oct. 15. However, she's not a stranger to Niagara College. In 1969, she moved from Smiths Falls to Welland and enrolled in the Journalism, Advertising and Public Relations program.

There were 51 students in her first-year class, crowded into one classroom in Hennepin Hall. Before a closet was converted into a darkroom, "our darkroom

LYN RUSSO

was a coat over our head and change the film," she said. Nevertheless, the adverse conditions made it an adventure, she said.

Returning to Niagara College 22 years later, Mrs. Russo said "the size is unbelievable." In 1969 the college consisted of Hennepin Hall. The Black Walnut Building had just opened. There were 1,132 full-time students.

Upon graduating from the course, in 1971, Mrs. Russo worked as a reporter for the Welland Evening Tribune. After the births of her three children, Chris, Matt and Jacquie, she opened her own business, LR Graphics. She specialized in publications for non-profit organizations like the Grape and Wine Festival. She won first prize two years in a row in the International Festival Association publications division.

The awards were an achievement as she worked out of her home, 18 hours a day with a small staff of freelancers and commissioned sales force. She was competing with companies "literally across the world," she said.

Before accepting the job at the college, Mrs. Russo was vice-president of public relations at Lindley & Geddie, a marketing, design and public relations firm in St. Catharines.

She said the biggest challenge of her position will be "getting the message out about all the exciting things happening at Niagara."

Despite her busy schedule, Mrs. Russo finds the time to volunteer at the Alcohol and Drug Treatment Centre and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Foundation. She is on the board of the Chamber of Commerce in St. Catharines and is a founding member of the St. Catharines Corporate Challenge.

She lives in St. Catharines with her husband, Dan, and her three children.

Marketing director becomes chief of planning

By ABIGAIL KELLY
Staff Writer

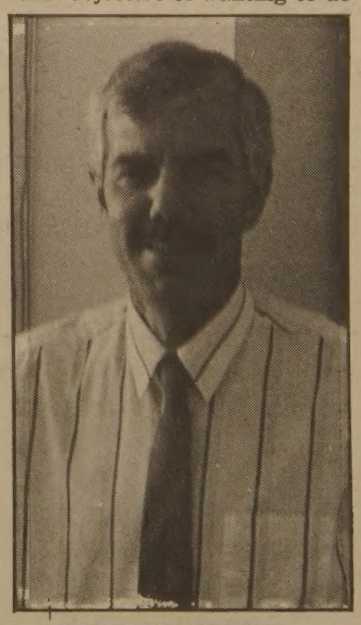
After a decade as Niagara College's marketing director, Foster Zanutto decided he needed some new challenges and assumed the position of director of planning and institutional development, July 1.

Since 1981, when Mr. Zanutto began as marketing director, he has seen titles and responsibilities change. At one time, his title was director of information services and his responsibilities consisted of dispensing information through calendars and brochures. Now, the department is called marketing and communications and duties include designing the student handbook, researching program development for recruitment purposes, recruiting high school students, organizing information nights and promoting college activities.

Mr. Zanutto, 46, said his biggest challenge was to prepare a marketing proposal which would be accepted by the college community and be supported by the college administration.

He said it became clear to him a stronger marketing department was needed when college enrolment dropped between 1982 and 1984. He said his biggest accomplishment was building a stronger department and convincing the president, the vice-presidents and the board it was worthwhile to allot more money to marketing.

He said his main reason for making the career move is his desire for diversity. "I have a personal objective of wanting to do different things. For example, I spent 11 years on the board of education and had three different jobs."



FOSTER ZANUTTO

He also wanted to get closer to the academic process.

In his new position, Mr. Zanutto has a variety of responsibilities. He is in charge of operational review — evaluating the college's performance as a whole, which is mandated by the ministry. He also prepares the annual report for the minister, which highlights yearly achievments and outlines goals for the upcoming year.

He oversees the development of each campus and is involved in the Niagara College Foundation.

In addition, he is the executive assistant to John Saso.

His biggest challenge now, he said, is accomplishing what he wants with very limited resources.

Mr. Zanutto said the college has a lot to offer, and Ms. Russo should tap into that expertise. "There is tremendous talent that can be tapped into," he said. "The college has tremendous potential and with the proper organization and focus in marketing, she can make a very strong contribution to that potential."

Since the position is very demanding, he advised Ms. Russo to "review in earnest her time management principles."

Mr. Zanutto is a native of the Niagara Region and lives in St. Catharines with his wife and two children. He holds an honors bachelor of arts in languages from the University of Windsor and a masters of education from the University of Toronto.

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Niagara College Bookstore

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Deposits are required.

Page 3

VISIT: Educational officials from India visit college's hospitality and tourism centre

By CAROLINE WINTERBOTTOM
Staff Writer

Educational officials from the government of India visited Niagara College's Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls on Sunday, Oct. 13, for a tour and to become familiar with the Canadian college system as part of the Canada-India Institutional Cooperation Project.

The project is a bilateral governmental initiative between Canada and India, enabled by a memorandum of understanding. The Canadian International Development Agency has approved the project for the period 1991-95, at a funding contribution level of $8.5 million. CIDA has contracted the Association of Canadian Community Colleges as its project executing agency.

The project's goal is to strengthen the Indian polytechnic system by developing and implementing joint initiatives between selected Indian polytechnics from South India and Canadian colleges.

The delegates included Dr. P. J. George, program director and executive secretary of the Indian Society for Technical Education; Prof. Sitarama Rao, acting head of Technical Teacher's Training Institute, Madras; Prof. P. V. Bhandary, director Technical Education Government of the state of Karnataka; and Dr. V. Mahalingham, director of Polytechnic Education, Government of the state of Tamil Nadu. Dean Shivji, ACCC representative, accompanied the group.

COLLEGES REPRESENTED

Representatives from three Canadian colleges were present. Niagara College was represented by David Schleich, vice-president academics and Hugo Bessems, international student adviser. Two recent graduates of Niagara College who are from India were also present; Reynold Karkada, Business Administration Information Systems program, and Sonya Miranda, Fashion Arts program.

London's Fanshawe College representative was Carol Barker, manager international education, and Kitchener's Conestoga College was represented by Doug Prolopec, manager international education projects.

The delegates arrived at the centre at 10 a.m. and were given a brief overview of Niagara College and the Niagara region by Mr. Schleich.

He said the college has an "interesting mix" of faculty, support staff and management. "My experience at Niagara so far has been very pleasant," said Mr. Schleich. "It's a college that is poised to grow rapidly."

He described the Niagara region as a major international tourist venue with 13,177,602 people visiting the area in 1990-91 spurring development in the hospitality field. Mr. Schleich said the peninsula is "the main channel of some significant increases in free trade activities between Canada and the United States."

DIFFERENCES EXIST

The officials from India informed college representatives of their educational system. "In India we call such institutions polytechnics," said Dr. George. He said there are 800 polytechnics in India. Two hundred to 250 of them are fully government-owned, 150 are supported by government grants and 300 are privately owned.

Each polytechnic offers between three to seven courses and has a maximum of 600 students.

The courses offered in India polytechnics are similar to those offered here: engineering, fashion design, computer science, management and film, to name a few. Tuition costs are a minimal $10 a year.

Possible new computer program

A proposal was presented to Niagara College's Board of Governor's at its last meeting for a one-year post-diploma computer program to be overseen by the college's business division.

An advisory committee composed of college graduates, industrial sector managers and directors, and the college's business division faculty stated a need existed for the program. "Input from the faculty and the advisory committee has shown there is an increased need for a program of this nature," said Thomas Honey, computer programming coordinator. "The program will be designed for people who fall in between the need for a full program and the need for more than a two week intensive course."

In the fall of 1992, the program will offer two terms of courses ranging from computer hardware to more advanced LOTUS 123 and Database. However, a student would not have to take a full two terms. Depending on individual need a student could take any course as long as admission requirements are fulfilled. These include graduation from a college two- or three-year diploma program, or three year university degree or grade 12 and minimum five years business experience. Students need some familiarity with microcomputers.

Ms. Barker discussed Fanshawe College and its international programs. She spoke of recruitment of international students and the fact international programs can be used as motivators for faculty and staff to "turn them on in their jobs."

International activities at Conestoga College were discussed by Mr. Prolopec. On the recruitment of offshore students, he said, "It's good to have our students meet students from other countries."

The delegates toured the facility. Mr. Schleich said the centre's purpose is "to develop state-of-the-art tourism and hospitality training." The guests were shown a typical classroom as well as the micro-lab for computer training, and the wine and mixology lab. When entering the lecture lab facility Mr. Schleich joked "come in, I'm going to show you how to make quiche."

Lunch was served in the Kerrio Room where the group dined on tomato and fennel soup, shrimp and scallops in a filo basket and, for dessert, baked Alaska. The meal was prepared by Patrick Hogan, manager food and beverage, at Niagara College.

From left, Dr. P. J. George, Prof. P. V. Bhandary and Dr. V. Mahalingham discuss their polytechnic system at Niagara College's Hospitality and Tourism Centre in Niagara Falls, Ont. The members of the delegation from India toured the centre and learned of Canada's college system.

Photo by Caroline Winterbottom

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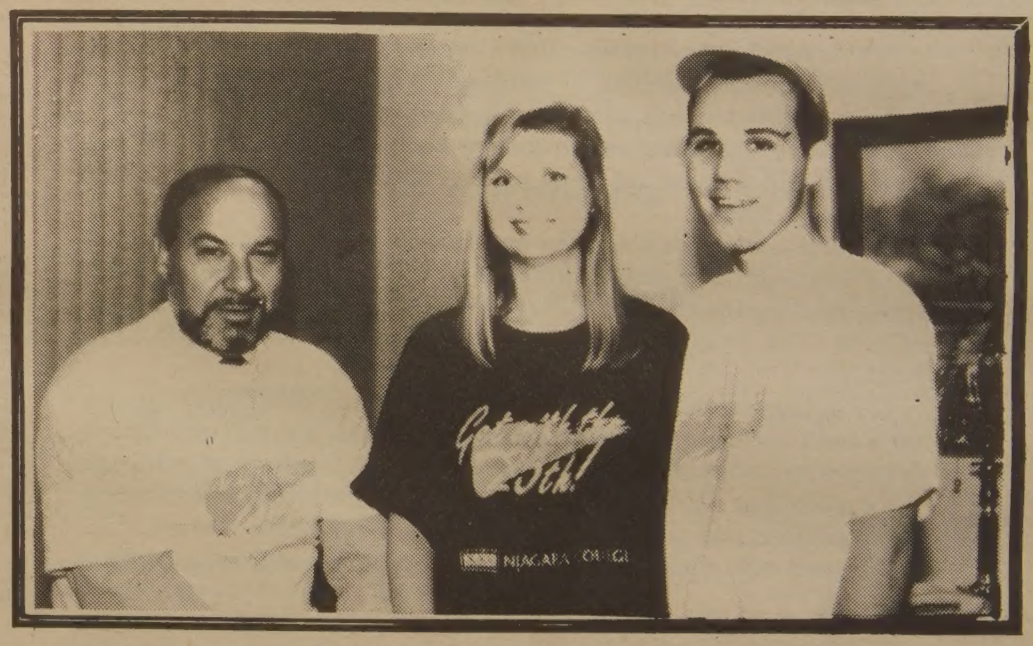

GET WITH THE 25TH!

A roving t-shirt spotter will be searching each campus today for Niagara College 25th Anniversary t-shirts. If you are the first person to be spotted waring one of these t-shirts you will win a prize.

T-shirt are available for $10.50 in medium, large and x-large sizes at the Welland Campus bookstore only.

Niagara

25 YEARS OF XXV EXCELLENCE

NIAGARA COLLEGE SINCE 1967 REGION OF NIAGARA COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

Editorials

Feminist crybabies?

Feminists, the extreme sort, are beginning to get on our nerves. They raise issues about sexism that don't exist. The women responsible are becoming unbearable.

From our perspective, not everything in life has an undertone of sexism. The national anthem, the Lord's prayer, even the original name of the Niagara College student centre, Knights Quarters, were not put there to offend the oh-so-easily-offended women of this country or even of this college; however, feminists find it to be so.

Crying out about the reference to chairman, and changing it to chairperson is bad enough. Just because the noun ends in "man" does not mean the position is held solely by men. However, that is only a minor infraction.

The point is these radical women are not just fighting for their rights anymore. If they were, they would have our respect and graditude. However, they're fighting a non-existent battle of wits against themselves. It's as if they're trying to prove something, not to themselves, but to everyone else. What they are really doing is causing people to resent and dislike them. They give the rest of women a bad name.

Fighting to change the name of the student centre, for example, was a stupid idea, considering the name was not sexist. The fact knights of olden days were all men was due to their superior strength not because they wanted to alienate women. If there were knights in today's times, we're sure there would be scores of women pushing and shoving to get the rules changed and to enter the game. Closer to home, all of Niagara College's sports teams are named Niagara Knights. The name would have merely reflected school spirit.

Know what your limitations are. Believe it or not, they exist. Don't take it too far because instead of working for you, it will, in the long run, work against you.

Lynn Drapeau

Green means go

Niagara College's environmental policies are abhorrent because they aren't being implemented.

Whatever happened to the Earth Now! group, the oh-so-expensive recycle bins and the idea of reusing? Why are we lagging so far behind in the concept of environmental protection?

Fine paper recycling at the college seemed to have taken-off last year, yet not a word has been spoken about it nor has any action been taken since.

Student participation in the environmental process was virtually non-existent last year. Earth Now! was a group aimed at effectively making the blue bin recycle program around this college work. It was to be involved with other projects this year. What's the holdup?

The college recently received $4,919 from the Shell Environmental Fund to be used for a recycling project. That task will undoubtedly prove to be difficult without the aid of both faculty and students.

Establishing environmentally friendly work ethics and altering the purchase policy at Niagara College is definitely a start.

We need to further the environmental progress of this institution now.

Michelle Siewert

Bullpit

Keeping to yourself

By MARK DENIS
Staff Writer

Walking around this institution not caring about big-picture policies is what the average student does.

People who raise concerns about micro-issues such as faculty strikes, budget cuts, parking problems and other college woes are pseudo-soothsayers.

Are these people speaking to sound important therefore believing the importance of their message will lead others to believe its importance?

I don't know, whether your rage or apathy about a subject really matters unless you hold a position of governmental power. Few people in society have the individual strength to take the pressures of crises head-on.

Perhaps, stumbling around ignorant of the bureaucratic confusion and merely dealing with one's own problems is best. Basically, it's all the same when ideals turn benign as the system's operations and expectations create conformity. Keeping yourself out of the public eye is a sane way to live.

Letters to the Editor

Parking relief at last

Open Letter to Students and Faculty:

In view of the shortage of available parking on the Welland campus, the Parking Committee has designated an area to the north of the Black Walnut Building and the Student Centre as overflow parking with the capacity for 100 cars.

This area, which has been cordoned off with snow fencing, is available immediately.

If there is no space in the regular lots, staff and students are asked to park in this temporary grassy lot.

Any cars continuing to park on the grass in non-designated areas will be ticketed or towed away.

Your co-operation is requested.

John Saso
President

Good news from GST

Dear Editor:
As a student, you may be eligible for the goods and services tax (GST) credit. To qualify for this year's credit, you must be 19 years of age or older at the end of 1990 or under 19 and married or a parent.

The basic GST credit is $190 for an adult and $100 for each child with an additional $100 available for single adults. The amount of the credit you will receive is based on income and on the number of dependants you have.

It's also not too late to apply for GST credit payments based on the 1989 return. To be eligible for the 1989 or 1990 GST credits, you have to file an income tax return and a completed GST credit application for each year.

It is very important to notify Revenue Canada, Taxation when you move so that your GST credit cheques can be sent to the correct address.

To obtain more information on the GST credit or to change your address simply call your nearest Revenue Canada, Taxation district office. You will find the address and phone number in the Government of Canada listings of your telephone book.

Yours sincerely,
Otto Jelinek
Minister of National Revenue

Students working together

Dear Editor:
TO: Keith Lindberg

I would like to congratulate you and your staff for the excellent presentation on Niagara College recently aired on Cable 10. The piece was well written, organized and gave the community a very clear picture of the various activities at the college including good coverage of our new Student Centre, After Hours.

It is my understanding that you had some assistance from students in the Journalism-Print and Broadcasting-Radio, Television and Film Programs in making this high-quality production. Please extend my thanks to all those who participated in this venture which brings to light the great things happening at Niagara College. I look forward to viewing the remaining segments.

Keep up the good work!

John Saso,
President

Ask Henry

Ask Henry, the advice column which first appeared in the Oct. 18 edition of Niagara News, will appear in the Nov. 7 issue with answers to questions received. Students with queries may address them to Ask Henry, c/o S212, Welland campus. Any topic. Any time.

Letters welcomed

The Niagara News welcomes letters from readers. Letters to the editor should be kept brief and must include the writer's name, program and telephone number. Letters must be signed, pen names will not be accepted. The editor reserves the right to edit all letters, but will take every precaution to preserve the core of the writer's point of view or argument. Letters should be left at the newsroom of the Niagara News, Second floor, Simcoe Building by noon Wednesdays.

News tips call extension 7750

Correction

Incorrect information appeared in the Niagara News Vol. 22 No. 2 edition of Oct. 11, 1991 in the page 2 report on "Niagara's great chefs start cooking."

Niagara College's gourmet meals will be prepared by all chefs at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre.

Reservations will be taken up to, and including, the day of the dinner, Beverley Williams at the centre said. To ensure a reservation, she recommends obtaining tickets 10 days prior by calling Ext. 3602.

NIAGARA NEWS

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Focus

Residence transformed: classroom for basic literacy, life, social skills

By CAROLYN MULLIN
Staff Writer

The lounge of Tanguay Place, a disabled adults residence in Welland, is transformed three times a week as three instructors bring a unique Niagara College class to nine students.

Teachers Leona Knash and Jennifer Long, with educational assistant Julienne Hall, conduct an Ontario Basic Skills course to severely physically disabled adults on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings.

The course emphasizes visual and auditory methods to teach basic literacy. Reading, writing (for those who are able) and phonetics are combined with life and social skill lessons.

Before the past holiday weekend, lessons focused on Thanksgiving. Most students have never cooked or baked, so ingredients and menus had to be taught first. Those students, able to write, selected menus and found the best buys from grocery flyers. The other students are quadriplegic, unable to write, so they selected items verbally from pictures for their menu. Mrs. Long pasted them on an easel for easy reference.

Ontario Basic Skills instructor Jennifer Long, right, helps Kevin Toner, of the Tanguay Place class, with a reading lesson.
Photo by Carolyn Mullin

Pilot

Last spring, Niagara College was honored for having the first educational program for persons with multiple disabilities. The program is a pilot project for the Ontario Basic Skills division of Ventures. According to Access secretary Margaret Robertson, Ontario Basic Skills submitted a proposal to the Ministry of the State for Multiculturalism and Citizenship. They were given federal funding from the National Literacy Secretariate division. The funding started early this year but will end in December.

Donna Putman, Ontario Basic Skills co-ordinator, asked Mrs. Knash, a former elementary teacher working as an instructor for Ontario Basic Skills, to research methods for teaching such a class.

"Previously the manpower and facilities were lacking," said Mrs. Knash. She said experimentation is necessary because there is little or no literature available on teaching this type of class.

Mrs. Long, a former counsellor and English as a second language teacher, helped part-time until April when both started the classes full time with five students. Mrs. Hall, a recent graduate of the social services program, joined the team on Sept. 3.

There are now nine students. Six students live at Tanguay Place. Others are brought by Welland Handi-Trans. Transportation is part of the budget but it is extremely expensive, said Mrs. Long. One round trip costs about $60 with an additional $5 for each extra address.

Structure

The ratio of instructor to student is one to three, and another assistant may soon be added. This is rarely seen in college or high school classes, but the students need individual instruction according to their personal situation. Some are visually impaired, or almost non-verbal, and most lack a formal education.

Bill Taylor, 56, did not know the alphabet, but can now read at a basic level. Brooke Aitcheson used Bliss symbols before she learned to read and communicate in words.

The students lack multi-sensory perception so they rely on eyes, ears, and memory. Those who can write spend almost an hour in composing and writing paragraphs. The other students have reading lessons, two students with one instructor, reading enlarged print on an easel. Repetition is the key to the learning process.

There is no formal evaluation, although the Niagara Rehabilitation Centre provides speech assessments, Mrs. Long said. The students are continually encouraged and their works are posted on the lounge walls. Mrs. Long said standardized tests often involve a written component which would prove too difficult physically for the students.

Certificate

Mrs. Knash said the students will receive a certificate when they complete the course. They were given awards last spring from Ontario Basic Skills for outstanding achievement for overcoming obstacles.

"Everyone has a basic right to education, an adequate education," said Mrs. Knash. People must learn to look beyond the disability to the person, and realize that a physical disability is not a mental one, she said.

Poet perseveres

Jodi Soock is one of nine students in the literacy project at Tanguay Place in Welland. She is part of the advanced group.

Due to her disability and speech impairment, Jodi must dictate her ideas for stories or poems to one of the instructors. The time spent in the classroom is sometimes not enough for her to dictate a complete work, but she is able to retain her ideas until the next session.

Her talent for creative writing is evident in her poetry and stories which adorn the walls of the classroom.

I Am Cerebral Palsy
I am a person.
I am not a creature from outer space.
My handicap is a part of me.
I can't put it in a closet,
and go into society.
It goes with me wherever I go.
It is even with me when I am sleeping.
Please accept me, for who I am
Because if I didn't have
cerebral palsy
I wouldn't be me.

The Circle of Life
Life is a circle that goes round and round.
People get on and off.
The people who you want to stay on
Get off very quickly.
I know you will get off one day,
But maybe you will get on my circle again.

Jodi has told her instructors she would like to take a creative writing course. She says she is confident in her ability and would like to have some kind of formal evaluation.

However, there are obstacles to overcome. Jodi has tried to take a psychology course at Niagara College. She had difficulty keeping up, even when aided with taped lectures.

Technology provides a solution, but at a cost. The word prediction feature on a special computer would aid Jodi in forming her own sentences. If she typed "ap" the computer would scan familiar words such as ape or apple. Jodi would push the button at the correct word.

Unfortunately for Jodi, and another student, the waiting period to receive help from the Vocational Rehabilitation Services is a year long. If the literacy project is terminated (funding ends in December) the request will be put off or denied.

Adults with initiative tackle three Rs

Reading, writing, 'rithmetic. Most of us have replaced the three R's with more complicated things. But some adults lack these basic skills.

Those with initiative to learn join the Ontario Basic Skills program at the St. Catharines campus.

There are about 20 students in Norma Poole's class. Mrs. Poole is an English teacher for Ontario Basic Skills. Some students are learning, some are re-learning she said, and she is constantly amazed by their talent.

"They have taught me more than I could ever teach them," she said. "They have an uncanny ability to adapt."

About half the class are new Canadians. They show appreciation for Canada, which is refreshing compared to the regular grumblings about the state of our country, Mrs. Poole said.

She said she has changed her perspective on Canada, considering the oppression and hardships from which the students have escaped.

The Canadian-born citizens are equally enthusiastic, she said. They not only learn the basics, but they gain social skills and make new friends.

Mrs. Poole said the students learn best by writing out their ideas, polishing them on paper. One of their projects this term was to compose sentences about autumn. The results speak for themselves.

"The squirrel soon tired and napped on a colorful blanket of red and yellow leaves," wrote Allan Lennox.

Enu Yami says of a Canadian fall "what a marvellous time– everything is colored and the city is more attractive than ever."

"Nature is happier and more picturesque in autumn and September is its witness," wrote Rene Meza, while Veronica Decker describes the climate: "the sun isn't so strong anymore to fight the upcoming cold days of winter."

Elizabeth Macek wrote "everything in nature has a rest after a very noisy and laborious summer", while Marta Meza believes "autumn makes me think of changes and changes are challenges to me."

"Autumn, the months of change, are so overwhelmingly breathtaking they can be the months of entertainment," observed Richard Riddell.

Ottmar Staub wrote, "I remember the early morning when I took my horses out into the misty, crisp air."

Bob Lavoie sums up his observation with simple elegance: "the trees shiver away their leaves."

In the Ontario Basic Skills program, the students chose courses such as math and computers to structure a timetable from 16 to 24 hours a week. English is taught twice a week, three hours each time.

The program is government-funded, similar to the Ontario Basic Skills program at Tanguay Place in Welland.

The students from each branch correspond through a unique system, Mrs. Poole said. To reward the students from the Tanguay class, Mrs. Poole's students send jokes for them to read, as a treat from normal lessons.

Second annual Co-op Education Week begins Nov. 3

National Co-operative Education Week will be observed at Niagara College Nov. 3 — 9, 1991, for the second year.

Co-operative education programs are popular with students and businesses, Rosemary Cawthorn, manager, Co-operative Education and Career Services, said.

"The concept of integrating the academic with practical work experience is popular because they (the students) recognize that it aids the transition from school to work," she said.

Other benefits students gain from from this method of post secondary education are: good references when looking for graduate employment, reinforcing the theory learned in the academic portion of the course, determining first hand whether the job is the right one for the individual, and making contacts in the field.

"An added plus is the students 'earn while they learn' because they are assisted to obtain paid employment while completing the program," Ms. Cawthorn said. The work portion of the program must be completed to graduate the course.

Co-operative education was initiated in Canada in 1958. Now, there are more than 40,000 students participating in this style of education.

There are 80 post secondary institutions and more than 5,000 employers involved. In Ontario alone, 12,000 college students are enrolled in Co-op, and in Niagara College, 900 are enrolled in the 18 co-op programs offered.

"Co-op originally started at Niagara College in the area of business, and it has expanded into technology," Ms. Cawthorn said. "Businesses agree with the co-op philosophy and hire when work and budget is available. We've had good response from employers. We know the co-op students are providing valuable assistance to the businesses."

The Canadian Association for Co-operative Education has been providing guidance for students and businesses for more than 35 years.

"They also promote co-op education as they are doing with this National Co-operative Education Week," Ms. Cawthorn said. "We have a committee looking at plans for the week, but they're not firmed up yet. We expect there will be press releases and advertising and some special events."

National Co-operative Education Week promotes an alternative approach to education, a system which offers numerous practical and academic benefits, Ms. Cawthorn said.

Grade 12 student in college co-op

By CATHY WATT
Staff Writer

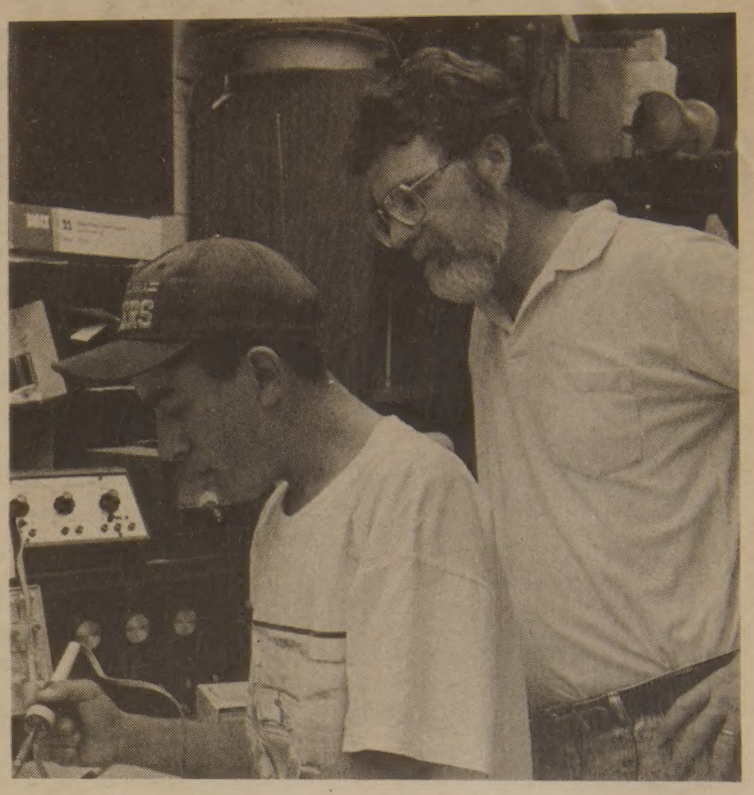
For three hours a day, Dan Minniti, a 17-year-old high school student, has an opportunity to try out his future at Niagara College.

Mr. Minniti is working in Central Supply in the technology department from September to January to complete his grade 12 co-operative work experience for electronics at Welland's Centennial High School. Following his graduation next year, Mr. Minniti plans to enrol in the two-year Electronics Technician program at the college.

Although he doesn't attend regular classes, Mr. Minniti works on electronics projects that could be useful for first-year technician and technology students. "I've been working on this infrared remote switch for four days," he said as he concentrated on his latest project.

David Gould, senior engineering electronics technologist at the college for 20 years, is Mr. Minniti's supervisor. Mr. Gould maintains and orders electronic test equipment and related materials for students' use. While Mr. Minniti is working in Central Supply, Mr. Gould said he will give him projects that provide a basic background in electronics. "Dan is a conscientious individual and knows what he's doing...he picks things up quickly," he said.

Russ Henri, part-time technician in Central Supply and a 1990 gradute of the Electronics Engineering Technician program, said he assists Mr. Minniti with his projects whenever he can.



Dan Minniti, (left) works on a project supervised by David Gould, senior technologist in Central Supply.
Photo by Cathy Watt

Anthony Backler, technology department director, and Mr. Gould arranged the work program with Lynden Russell, the co-op education co-ordinator at Centennial High School. Mr. Russell said this is the first technology placement at Niagara College.

Although co-op is an option, Mr. Russell said students receive two credits for 240 hours of work. "Co-op students decide what they want to do before they start a full-time program...sometimes it leads to employment," he said.

Meanwhile, Mr. Minniti said he finds the work very interesting and has learned some new techniques. He said his supervisors were very helpful. "They're easy on me."

Love a tree

Enacting the theme of Week of the Child, Love a Tree, Niagara College President John Saso, left, helped Ryan turn the first shovel of soil around the four-foot white pine donated by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. 'It is (necessary) to realize the importance of children and the environment... It's a perfect place to a plant a tree in front of the Early Childhood Centre,' Mr. Saso said. Attending the ceremony, third from left, were Ed Kraker, acting district manager for MNR's Niagara office, and Pat Eversden, centre manager. The ceremany took place Tuesday, Oct. 22.

Photo by Marilyn Walkington

College safe so far

By LISA WEISS
Staff Writer

Carol Boettcher, Niagara College's vice-president of student life and human resources, doesn't think violence is a problem at Niagara College.

"I don't think Niagara College is a dangerous or violent campus," Mrs. Boettcher said. "Because society is becoming more violent, there is a push to put things in place. If any kind of violent action was to occur, we would deal with it quickly."

Last winter a task force was created, with help from students and faculty at the college, to monitor internal violence at Niagara.

"The President enforced a task force last January," Mrs Boettcher said. "That task force reports of any actions to me."

No violence has been reported at the college this year, but the task force is aware of occurrences in larger institutions.

"I haven't seen any violence, but I know when violence or potential danger occurs here at the college, we will inform everyone in the college community rather than keep records," Mrs. Boettcher said. "People will be kept aware of any danger, because we believe no one should be exposed to verbal or physical abuse."

"There doesn't appear to be a problem here at Niagara," Mrs. Boettcher said. "It's mainly the facility that deals with the public, like the registar's office who hears verbal complaints everyday. Also, it is the faculty who hears it from the students."

There is no indication of campus violence revolving around racial or sexual discrimination. That is not to say it does not exist at Niagara, but no reports have been made on this being a major factor, Mrs. Boettcher said.

"Last year's big problem was the hallway outside the bookstore," Mrs. Boettcher said. "The people in 'eyeball alley' weren't neccessarily being violent, but this kind of harassment created an atmopsphere where people became uncomfortable."

An audit has ben created for females at all college locations this year to make campus life as safe as possible.

"We, at Niagara College, will get a team together and walk around the campus with a checklist of safety items," Mrs. Boettcher said. "Everyone will benefit from this program because we will have a safer campus, we will know what to look for and how to react to certain incidents, and it will provide guidance for overall awareness."

Meet and greet

Niagara College President John Saso will be the moderator of a Meet the Candidates Evening, Oct. 30 in the college's Hamilton Room, Welland campus.

Chamber executive director Dolores Fabiano said the public is welcome to attend the session, which begins at 7 p.m., to hear the candidates' platforms and "find out where they stand on various issues."

Maclean-Hunter Cable television will broadcast the event.

Written questions will be accepted by the moderator and addressed to each candidate.

Relocation of lost and found

A new place has been found for items that have been lost.

Lost and found, located at the SAC office last year, has been relocated to the Buildings Operations office, L6 on the Welland campus.

Many items, from prescription glasses to clothing to textbooks, are sitting there unclaimed and piling up, Linda Maidens said.

Ms. Maidens, buildings operations supervisor, said many of the items are unclaimed because no form of identification is marked on them.

"Students should be more careful with their stuff and mark them with some sort of identification so that they are sure to get them back if they happen to get lost," she said.

Students are encouraged to turn in any items they find to the buildings operations office. Anyone looking for a lost item will be asked to identify what it is they lost. Ms. Maidens will check for the item and return it if it's there.

At the end of the academic year, unclaimed items are either donated to a charity or thrown out. Textbooks are donated to the SAC office for resale at lower cost.

As a result of locker break-ins, Ms. Maidens advises "people should not bring valuables to school" and added that "a lot of purses have been stolen" from lockers. She stresses to students to "bring as little as possible to school."

Strike up the band

Honoring the Week of the Child, the E. L. Crossley Marching Band from Pelham led the children of the Early Childhood Centre around Niagara College's Welland campus in a kick-off parade to the tune of 'Tequila'. Bringing up the rear was the Niagara Knight. The celebration began Monday, Oct. 21 and ends today with an open house at the centre until 4 p.m.

Photo by Marilyn Walkington

Student administrative councillors from left, Eric Hithcock, Glenna Hansen, and Dale Deloughery, prepare for the pumpkin carving contest for the Halloween party, Thursday, Oct. 31, at After Hours.

Photo by Jason Darrah

All carved up? Here's a place to go

The Student Administrative Council will be holding the first annual Halloween costume party, Thursday, Oct. 31, at After Hours.

The free party will include a screening of the cult classic *The Rocky Horror Picture Show,* starting at 8 p.m., and people are encouraged to bring all the appropriate paraphenalia.

SAC will award $25 for the best carved pumpkin, $15 for second place, and $10 for third, but participants must bring their finished art works from home.

There will be a prize awarded for the best costume. Although costumes are encouraged, they are not mandatory.

Activities will include a disc-jockeyed dance, bobbing for spam, and a game of twister.

Party-goers must present indentification of age to a SAC officer at a table located in After Hours, on Wednesday or Thursday, before 5 p.m. Participants will receive a wristband, needed for admittance to the party.

Safe sex

Theme fails to lure

By JASON DARRAH
Staff Writer

The Safe Sex Night theme, at After Hours, on Wednesday, Oct. 16, attracted little interest. About five people stayed until the end of Madonna's *Truth or Dare* video, the only event planned for the evening.

A plethora of safe sex and AIDS awareness paraphenalia littered the bar, but with an evening total of no more than 25 customers, the information and questionaires found no readership. AIDS is acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

Disappointed with the event's attendance, Karen Beattie, Student Administrative Council's vice-president of internal affairs, attributed the poor turnout to "the usual lack of school spirit and participation," and also that the students may be saving their money for Thursdays' pub nights.

Two students playing pool during the Madonna video suggested the movie itself may have turned students away, and after finishing their game, they too left.

An AIDS awareness booth offered several safe sex brochures, free condoms and women's condom carrier purses. The booth was attended by Lynda Zavitz, a registered nurse for the Regional Health Service's AIDS Education and Support program, and Linda Bogacz of the AIDS Committee of Niagara.

Ms. Zavitz said she was disappointed with attendance because AIDS is an important issue that can affect everyone. She said there are 150 confirmed cases of people with the HIV virus or full blown AIDS, in the Niagara region; that most cases have been transmitted by sexual contact, and a significant number of people have contracted the virus through shared needles.

Regarding college students, Ms. Zavitz said a specific age group cannot be identified as having a greater AIDS risk because the incubation period for the HIV virus is from seven to 10 years. However, she identified habits that may be considered to raise some college students' AIDS risk. These were increased sexual activity with unfamiliar partners; sexual activity under the influence of drugs or alcohol, which may lower safety precautions; and sharing of unsterilized sharp objects like drug needles, ear piercing guns, or tatoo needles.

Ms. Zavitz said the Regional Health Service has clinics in both Niagara Falls and St. Catharines offering HIV testing to couples who want to ensure neither partner is infected.

The Regional Health Service office is located in St. Catharines, and its phone number is 688-3762. The AIDS Committee of Niagara, also in St. Catharines, can be reached at 984-8684. AIDS information can also be obtained from the nurse's offices at all Niagara College campuses.

Weekly draw for vacation

The After Hours bar wants to send several lucky students to Daytona, Fla. for spring break.

Starting Nov. 7, After Hours will raffle off one holiday package, on each Thursday pub night for the week of March 2-6. The package includes bus transportation to and from Daytona, seven nights in a beach-front hotel, and several events organized by the Highlife Ventures tour company.

Tickets will be issued at the door only on Thursdays upon payment of a $1 cover charge, and one ticket will be drawn at midnight. If the lucky ticket holder has already left the bar, another ticket will be drawn. Additional tickets can be purchased at the bar, selling at three tickets for $1.

Shayne Forsyth, a promoter for the trip and an After Hours staff member, said the holiday is a notoriously fun-filled week in one of the most popular spring break locations. Hundreds of students from American and Canadian colleges and universities take to the Florida shores each year for "study week".

Last year, five buses were needed to truck approximately 200 Niagara College students to the hot beaches of Daytona. Events planned for this year are similar to last year's festivities and include pool parties, MTV music concerts, beach volleyball and football, raft races, and wet T-shirt and shorts contests.

For extra money, participants may choose to tour the Walt Disney Epcot Centre, the MGM Studios, go on a night boat cruise, go deep-sea fishing, or celebrate a Hawaiian luau. Some entertainment discounts are made available to participants.

The Student Administrative Council will start selling the package deal in early November for about $200.

Pub closing early

Poor turnout Wednesdays

By JASON DARRAH
Staff Writer

The After Hours pub will close early on Wednesdays due to poor patron turnout.

Donna Flutur, the manager for After Hours and the Student Administrative Council, said the bar cannot stay open for so few customers because revenues do not cover expenses, and it is an inconvenience to bar staff.

"We had no (customers) at six o'clock, and maybe 20 people would show up at eight. It was vey inconsistent, very irregular turnout," said Mrs. Flutur.

She will close the bar at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays, except for the monthly scheduled SAC events.

Mrs. Flutur said it's futile hoping for future customers on Wednesday nights because it's not a night students regularly go out for entertainment.

The new student bar had satisfactory profits for September, but Mrs. Flutur said that, so far, October does not look as promising, and she said she hopes to cut Wednesday night losses before they add to disappointing totals. Mrs Flutur did not provide figures for September profits.

Mrs. Flutur said there is no intention to extend bar hours on Friday evenings, but she said she would support a proposal to extend liquor sales over the lunch hour.

A petition that has 360 signatures requesting the addition of 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. bar service will be presented to the Student Centre management committee at their next meeting. If approved, it will be presented to the college's Board of Governors. The petition, with names and identification numbers, was posted inside the pub, for the first month of classes. People wishing to add their names to the list should see Dale Deloughery in the SAC office.

After Hours serves alcohol on Thursdays from 3 p.m. to 1 a.m.; weekdays service starts at 3 p.m. and ends at 7 p.m. or earlier depending on the number of customers.

Centre grand opening

The official grand opening for Niagara College's new Student Centre, home of the After Hours bar and Student Administrative Council offices, is set for Friday night, Oct. 25.

The ribbon cutting ceremonies and the wine and cheese party, with diginitaries John Saso, Niagara College president, Peter Kormos, Welland-Thorold MPP, and Welland Mayor Roland Hardy, are limited to invitation only, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

All students and staff are invited to the public celebrations, commencing at 8 p.m. Free cake will be offered while David Ben entertains with a unique magic show.

Mr. Ben, the man responsible for uniting the magic-comedy team of Penn and Teller, is a lawyer-turned-illusionist who mingles with the crowd and performs different and bewildering acts for each table.

The After Hours sound system will also provide music for the festivities.

Adults get kids' eye view

Internationally renowned educator Peter Alsop's aim was to help adults see the world as children do at a day-long workshop held Wednesday.

Helping Kids Help Themselves: A Day of Learning and Laughter was the theme of the seminars presented in part with Niagara College, the Niagara Child Development Centre, the Welland County Separate School Board and Niagara Region Social Services. Sessions were held at the Ramada Renaissance Fallsview in Niagara Falls, Ont.

The afternoon session was for professionals working with children in therapeutic, educational, daycare, and family settings. The theme was Not Just for Laughs: Using Song and Humor to Help Kids Cope with Everyday Stresses.

The evening session was for parents, educators, and caregivers interested in dealing with the important issues facing children today in a humorous, creative way. They learned valuable survival tactics for the 1990s. The theme was Opening Doors: Music, Storytelling and Humor to Help Children Grow Up Happy and Healthy.

Mr. Alsop, recognized worldwide as a singer/songwriter, lecturer, humorist, psychologist and educator, who lives in Southern California, has been an integral part of the conferences sponsored by the Institute for the Advancement of Human Behavior since 1980.

Calling all pumpkin carvers

Tomorrow night it's the search for the great pumpkin at the Welland campus cafeteria.

The 25th anniversary social planning committee will hold the Monster Mash Halloween dance from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. with music provided by Classic Sounds.

A great pumpkin search will be held. Everyone planning to attend is invited to take a carved pumpkin and enter it in the contest for a chance to win a dinner valued at $12.50.

Other prizes will be awarded throughout the night. People are encouraged to dress up for a chance to win one of three dinners, valued at $12.50 each, at the Hospitality and Tourism Centre. There will be two door prizes for 25th anniversary dinner tickets valued at $25 each. As well, there will be spot dances for prizes of potted chrysanthemums from the Horticultural School.

Staff and students are invited to come out and and prepare for a frightfully good time. Tickets are still available and may be purchased at the door for $7.

25 YEARS OF
XXV
EXCELLENCE

Facts and fun for staff

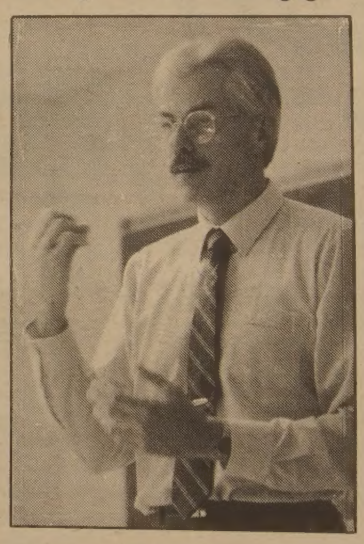
Education comes in many forms. For Niagara College's faculty and support staff the next two months will provide entertainment as well as serious study.

Ed Wilson, consultant human resources development, recently outlined special events and seminars slated to provide professional development for the college's employees.

A crisis intervention seminar, led by Morris Bosey, co-ordinator for counselling, will be held Nov. 7 from 1 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. at the Welland campus, Room S105c. It will cover assessing crisis seriousness, coping strategies, abilities and limitations, all of interest to faculty advisers, he said. Registration deadline is Oct. 31 to Mr. Wilson at the Welland Learning Resource Centre, ext. 7761.

A personal financial planning seminar will be conducted by Daniel Roy on Nov. 14 from 1 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. at the Welland campus' Room S109. Mr. Roy, a financial consultant, will present The Rules Have Changed: Financial Planning for the 90's. Topics include personal planning, registered retirement savings plans and tax shelters.

Everyone at Niagara College is welcome to participate in National Co-operative Education Week Nov. 3 to 9, Mr. Wilson said. An



JIM DRENNAN

open house showcasing the Co-operative Education program is slated for the morning of Nov. 4. For more information contact Rosemary Cawthorne, manager co-op education and career services, at ext. 7789.

Prior to Christmas, a workshop for college support staff to assist them in learning about special needs students will be held.

A Christmas skating party, organized by the recreation committee, a division of the professional development committee, will be held at the Welland Arena for all college staff and families the evening of Dec. 13.

The most recent workshop was on Teacher/Student Rights and Responsibilities, led by Jim Drennan, on Oct. 18. It will be repeated today from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the St. Catharines Wellandvale campus, Room SC31. Topics include dealing with anti-social behavior, cheating, sexual harassment and the implications of the human rights code.

NIAGARA COLLEGE

Combined effort

Support for mature students

By BARON BEDESKY
Staff Writer

Members of Niagara College's faculty, administration, student body, and the Student Administrative Council are combining efforts to create an association designed to assist mature students.

The proposed association will provide a helping hand for those who have returned to school after spending time in the workforce or raising a family. A formal constitution is in the works and the association should be established within a few days.

Organizers said they are hopeful once an official proposal and constitution are submitted to the student centre, the new association will be eligible for a grant from SAC to help cover some of the start-up costs. Any students who have spent time in the workforce or who are attempting to support families, are encouraged to join. There will be a small fee to help cover expenses. Information can be obtained at the SAC office.

Vice-president of academics David Schleich is one of the people supporting the organization. "I just suggested that we formalize it so that we can give mature students a focus for their activities and a focus for meeting some of their needs."

Mr. Schleich said he believes strongly in its success because of his involvement in a similar association while he worked at St. Lawrence College in Kingston, Ont. "Students were just delighted to have a place to go...and a voice," says Mr. Schleich, describing what he thinks were "instant positive results."

The association can play several roles according to Mr. Schleich. Perhaps most importantly, it can advocate for the needs and rights of the mature student. The college community can be made more aware of who the mature student is and how many attend the college. The latest surveys indicate slightly more than half of college students enter directly from high school.

The association will assist in organizing housing and transportation, and can provide a support group through social networking for everything from child care on professional development days, to adult social activities. These are things high school graduates normally do not require. As Mr. Schleich emphasizes, "The traditional student stereotype is no more."

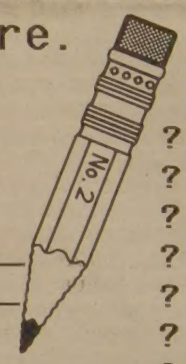
Carole Timm, co-ordinator of the Fashion Arts program, is also assisting in the association's establishment. Ms. Timm acknowledges that mature students' needs are a lot different from other students and she empathizes with those who are not sure which way to turn with their problems. "I'm a very interested faculty member. We all need a hand once in awhile," says Ms. Timm.

Diana Harris, a second-year journalism-print student, said she plans to play a prominant role in the association. The 34-year-old single mother arrived at the college last year from Toronto and admits she initially felt intimidated. Ms. Harris said she believes the association will prove invaluable with its referral and support services.

NIAGARA NEWS
Your best on-campus news source

Please Answer This Questionaire.

Student Council Wants To Know???



1. Do you want to see bands? YES ___ NO___ .
2. What kind of bands? R&B___, Top 40___, Reggae___, Orignal___, Heavy Metal___, Jazz___ Other_____
3. What nights? Wednesday___, Thursday___.
4. What radio station do you listen to? CFNY___, Kiss 98.5___, Hits FM___, Q107___, Other_____ _____.
5. Have you ever gone to Yuk Yuks? YES___, NO___.
6. How much would you pay to see a comedian? _____
7. Would you like us to show Monday night football in After Hours? YES___, NO___.
8. Are you a Male___, or Female___.
9. Would you like the bar in After Hours to be open from 12:00pm to 1:30am? YES___, NO___.
10. What events would you like to see at After Hours? ___ _____.
11. Other Comments? _____ _____ _____

All of this information will be used to better our services to your requests. Please help us in deciding on any upcoming events.

This survey can be dropped off at After Hours in the S.A.C. suggestion box.

Thank-you,
S.A.C.

Task force report basis for complex negotiations

No vote yet

By DOUG MORTON
Staff Writer

While negotiations between Niagara College's instructors and management are stalled, the talks are guided by a wages and benefits study which was initiated by a 1989 agreement.

"We haven't come to a vote on anything yet," Joan Hastings-Dove, president of local 242 of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union, representing the instructors, said, adding, "negotiations continue, the team will decide if and when to vote."

Carol Boettcher, college vice-president of human resources, said she doesn't expect talks to resume until next week but "the issues are still on the table."

The wages and benefits study, completed in July 1991, was undertaken in November 1989 as part of an arbitration agreement following a four-week strike. The Task Force on Wages and Benefits, headed by an independent chairman, William Marcotte, gathered data to compare college instructors' salaries with other teaching salaries provincewide.

Ms. Hastings-Dove said the main item of contention to settle a new contract is wages, especially in comparison with non-college teachers. She pointed out figures from the study which show maximum salaries for college instructors to be lower than those for university, public secondary school, public elementary and polytechnical instructors.

Ms. Boettcher said the study was "agreed upon by both parties during the last round of negotiations" and should "help guide them through the contract negotiations."

Ms. Hastings-Dove said the two per cent combined wages and benefits offer is "unacceptable . . . the mood at the table is positive, but the salary offer is definitely not one we're happy with."

The task force report places the maximum college instructor's salary at $59,884, while elementary school teachers are paid $63,326 and secondary school teachers $63,419.

College instructors are asking for wage parity with Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in Toronto, because "the task force members agreed . . . there is a greater similarity between the programs offered at Ryerson and the colleges than between the college programs and other educational institutions," the report said.

The task force consisted of Dr. Marcotte, who is independent of both the colleges and the unions, two members of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union and two representatives from the colleges' management.

Instructors at Ryerson are paid about 10 per cent more than college instructors.

This "confirms the colleges' faculty are paid less than their counterparts in other educational institutions throughout the province," the report said.

"I think it is an excellent, comprehensive report that will help both parties at the bargaining table," Ms. Hastings-Dove said.

"I am confident it will all work out," Ms. Boettcher said.

"We are confident," Ms. Hastings-Dove said. "Everything is in the good hands of our negotiating team."

Vietnamese excursion a 'three-fold purpose'

By CINDY HARRIMAN
Staff Writer

Hans van der Slagt, Niagara College's vice president of administration, is going to Vietnam on Sunday, Oct, 27, for three weeks.

The trip will serve "a three-fold purpose," Mr. van der Slagt said. It will allow the Association of Canadian Community Colleges to become more familiar with the Vietnamese system. It will provide an opportunity for the Vietnamese to learn about the Canadian college system , which they are quite interested in, and lastly, it it will offer a chance to look for opportunities to set up articulation agreements of various sorts, he said.

An articulation agreement would allow colleagues from Canada to work with those in Vietnam and might involve Canadian teachers going to develop and teach courses in Vietnam, Mr. van der Slagt said.

Niagara College has articulation agreements with England, China and the United States, he added.

Although Mr. van der Slagt is the only person from the college going to Vietnam, he will be joined by three other people — the president of a college in British Columbia, the vice-president of student services from Sherbrooke College, in Quebec, and the project leader from ACCC, who will be leading the group.

The trip is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency, a federal government organization.

"It will be the first group that's gone (to Vietnam) from ACCC," Mr. van der Slagt said.

The group will fly into Bangkok, Thailand then on to Hanoi and finally Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon), with the possibility of sidetrips.

Mr. van der Slagt said he will be talking about the role colleges play in helping Canadian small businesses.

He said Vietnam is becoming decentralized. Part of that involves allowing entrepreneurial activities, so the Vietnamese are interested in learning about business.

He will be talking about programming, financial and human assistance for business.

Mr. van der Slagt was in China for three months in 1984, teaching Chinese factory managers an introduction to management principles and practices. He returned there again in 1987 on behalf of the Ontario government for a feasibility study on management programs.

He said the twinning of Niagara College with Changsha University in China is the kind of model he wants to follow in Vietnam.

"I think it's allowed for a very specific development of programs to meet their (Changsha University's) needs," he said.

"Those kinds of college-to-college twinning arrangements seem to have worked very well."

Mr. van der Slagt said he is looking forward to his trip. "I enjoy travelling and I enjoy meeting people from other countries."

He said he will have the chance to be exposed to new culture and will "hopefully be able to give them something in return for it."

He attended an orientation program in Ottawa this week on the Vietnamese economy, history and culture.

"It's a brand new experience," he said.

Tech student wins printer

Shane Bilodeau, a computer engineering technology student, was the grand prize winner of a Raven PR9101 printer in Niagara College's Computer Store's grand opening draws.

Six other people won prizes in the hourly draws which followed the ribbon-cutting official opening ceremony, on Oct. 4, by Hans van der Slagt, vice-president of administration.

Draw winners are as follows: Printmaster (software), Darren Veld, manufacturing and engineering student; PC Globe (world knowledge software), Shawn Glasser, computer engineering technology student; The Writer (software and a box of Niagara College discs with plastic case), Mike Rolstonn, manufacturing engineering student; Logitech Dexxa mouse, Rainbow Paint software and a Wordperfect mouse pad, Marilynne Box, computer engineering technology student and Quicken (personal accounting software), Barb Hiller, bookstore personnel.

Recyclers: the blue bins are here

By LISA PRATT
Staff Writer

Niagara College is about to embark on its recycling blitz. Sophie Aggelonitis, environmental coordinator, has confirmed "the bins are here."

Niagara College's Welland campus is the first to receive recycling stations. Sixteen stations will be set up by early next week. Each includes one 25-gallon newsprint bin, one 20-gallon glass and cans bin, a set of recycling guidelines, and a refuse wastebasket. Each fine paper bin will be clearly marked. There will be nine distributed.

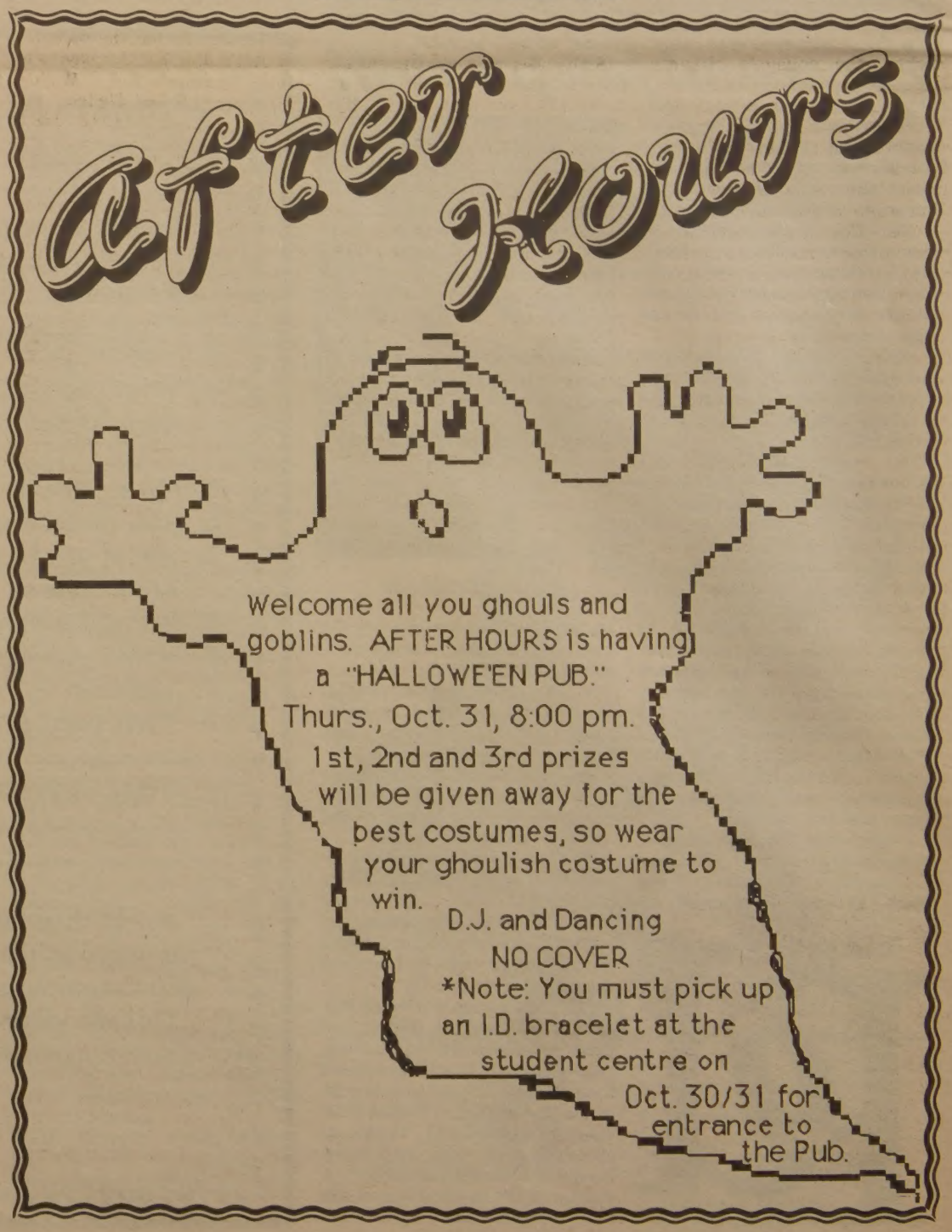
Hennepin Hall's complete recycling station will be inside the front doors. Mackenzie Building's will be located in the main hallway.

Merritt Wing's station will be in the main lobby outside the Learning Resource Centre. Additional stations will be on the three floors in high-traffic areas.

In the Simcoe Building, a station will be located in each floor's high-traffic zone. The Voyageur Building. in addition to its station, will have a secondary recycling station. This consists of a 10-gallon blue box beside the mini cafeteria.

"Once the bins are in operation, we need to stress that it's going to be a team effort to keep the college environmentally conscious," Ms. Aggelonitis said.

In the environmental strategy Green Plan: Niagara College, it was estimated the total waste generated per year is 599 tons. Using the ratio of 17 trees to make one ton of paper, Niagara College could save 10,183 trees annually.


After Hours
Welcome all you ghouls and goblins. AFTER HOURS is having a "HALLOWE'EN PUB."
Thurs., Oct. 31, 8:00 pm.
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*Note: You must pick up an I.D. bracelet at the student centre on Oct. 30/31 for entrance to the Pub.

Sports

Mike Ticknovich, the Niagara Knights' second net minder for the Saturday, Oct.19 home game, stretches to prevent the Connestoga College's fourth goal, but to no avail. The Knights won the game 10 — 7.

Photo by Jason Darrah

Hockey Knights shine

For the second time in as many nights, the college's Niagara Knights won their exhibition hockey games by three goals. On Saturday previous, Oct. 19, the Knights beat Conestoga College by a score of 10-7. The previous night, the Knights beat the University of Buffalo 4-1.

After Conestoga received a penalty two minutes into the first period of the game, Niagara responded with a power-play goal. Rob Lebedick scored for the home team and was assisted by Mike Duerden.

Niagara's Corey Favell received a penalty at 3:05 which allowed Conestoga to score their lone goal for the period.

While short-handed due to Dave Hall's roughing penalty at 10:45, the Knights scored two goals. The first came at 10:35 by Lebedick from Mike Dakin and Trevor Atkins. Next came the Favell goal from Kent Loach and Tom Landry at 12:04.

At 16:30, Simon Wayda of the Knights was given a four-minute penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct and Jim Thorpe was given two minutes for tripping.

The final Knight goal of the period came at 19:40 when Loach scored off a Landry to pass to end the period leading 5-1.

Sixteen seconds into the second period, Conestoga scored again at 13:09, 13:54, and 16:46 during the period.

Two Knight goals were scored in the period. The first came at 7:20 by Landry from Thorpe. At 17:40, the Knights scored a short-handed goal by Jason Disher, and assists went to Duerden and Rick Ryan.

At 9:44, Landry received a five-minute penalty for slashing.

Niagara's Duerden and Conestoga's Todd Francis were both given two 10-minute penalties and were gone for the rest of the game.

Niagara ended the second period with a slim 7-5 lead over Conestoga.

During the third period, both teams scored a total of five goals to end the game with Niagara winning 10-7.

One highlight from the third period, was an empty net goal by Thorpe of the Knights.

The night before on Friday, Oct. 18, Niagara beat the University of Buffalo in Wheatfield, N.Y. by a score of 4-1. Niagara's scorers were Loach from Lebedick and Dakin, Thorpe from Ryan, and Disher from Dakin. Disher scored a short-handed goal from Ryan and Landry to end the period.

Outstanding Knight players include goalie Rob Wylde, defencemen Brian Neilson and Trevor Atkins, centres Jason Disher and Dale Zimmerman, and left wingers Jim Thorpe and Rob Lebedick.

Future Knights home games include Saturday, Oct. 26 and Saturday, Nov. 2. All Knights games are played in the Welland Main Arena on King Street.

Niagara dribbles to defeat at invitational

The Niagara Knights started their 1991 men's basketball season on a bad note this past weekend as they lost three straight games in exhibition play.

On Friday, Oct. 18 and Saturday, Oct. 19, the team faced three community college teams in a round robin invitational basketball tournament. The event, featuring Niagara, Conestoga College of Kitchener, Loyalist College of Belleville, and John Abbott College, was held in the Welland campus gymnasium.

Saturday morning saw Niagara face Loyalist and then Conestoga. Niagara lost to Loyalist 96-83 and against Conestoga scored a team low of 59 points in a losing effort, 87-59.

Paul Grummett scored a team high of 39 points on Saturday while Paul Weller came second in scoring with 36 points. The following are the totals for other team members: Scott Currie, 16; Ken O'Brien, 15; Brady Fitzgerald, 12; Mark Lindsay, 8; Kevin Main, 6; Mike Mercier, 5; Cam Bell, 3; Rick DiPietro, 2; and Gerald Ferguson, 1.

In other Saturday games, John Abbott beat Conestoga 73-58, and Loyalist lost to John Abbott 94-56.

Friday night Niagara lost 94-68 to John Abbott and Loyalist beat Conestoga 79-60.

Knights players scoring included Weller, 19; Merv Wrighton, 15; Lindsay, 9; Grummett, 8; O'Brien, 6; Currie, 5; Fitzgerald, 3; and Pat Inneo, 3.

The Niagara Knights basketball season starts Nov. 9.

Outstanding goaltending key to Niagara soccer tie

By KARI CHWIECZAK
Staff Writer

Goalie Adam Thomas's quick reflexes was the Niagara Knights soccer team's key element in their 3-3 tie with Rombys Celtic Tuesday night.

After Niagara's Remo Ianiero made the score 1-0, Thomas was quick on his feet to stop many Rombys Celtic shots.

Rombys Celtic tied the score at one, but Frank Serra picked up a loose rebound for a go-ahead goal.

A defensive lapse caused Rombys Celtic's second goal of the game, but Niagara replied with their final goal by Ianiero, his second of the game.

In the second half, Niagara's offense was strong, but Rombys Celtic's goaltending prevented any further scoring.

Rombys Celtic tied the score at three early in the second half, and again scored a goal on a questionable penalty shot. The goal was disallowed. Thomas was penalized for holding the ball in the crease for more than five seconds.

Niagara's coach Ed Fox argued Thomas set the ball on the ground to kick out, but the referee saw differently. During the penalty shot, at least two players must touch the ball, but because the goal was directly shot past Thomas by one player, it was not counted.

"Other than that call, it was a great game," Mr. Fox said. "We played tough up against one of the best teams we'll ever face."

An offensive outburst in the first half helped guide the Knights to an easy 8-3 victory in a game played Oct. 15 against Chaps.

Niagara's Remo Ianiero quickly made the score 1-0, followed by insurance goals by Jim Thorpe and Len Camelino.

Chaps broke the shut-out and left the score 5-1 at the half.

"Once we built up a 5-0 lead, I think we got a little too confident in ourselves," Mr. Fox said. "Our offense lightened up, too."

Niagara's Lee Mooney made the score 6-1, but Chaps turned the tables and responded with two soft goals that slipped past the Niagara goalie.

Camelino scored his second goal of the game, and two insurance goals by Frank Serra secured the win for Niagara.

Niagara's record is 1-0-1. The Knights will face Bosna on Tuesday at 9 p.m. at the Welland Indoor Soccer Dome.

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United Way benefits from Port's haunted house

By SANDRA GOLDEN
Staff Writer

Jerry Dalcourt, owner of Central Lighting, Welland, has successfully operated a haunted house in Port Colborne, open to the public every Hallowe'en for the past six years. This year, a Niagara College student will be doing makeup and some special effects for him. And, for the first time, the United Way will benefit from the men's combined efforts.

Dean Serneels, 21, a general college student, will enrol in the second year of the Broadcasting, Radio, Television, and Film Program in December. He is taking electives he missed last year.

Although he has no formal training in makeup, Mr. Serneels said he has been interested in makeup and special effects for about four years. His room is full of human heads, body parts, and other props he has created, including a face with a hand embedded in it and the body of a centaur which he plans to wear this Hallowe'en.

"There's a magazine called Fangoria," he said. "Four years ago I was looking through it and saw that there were different things to send away for. I had never sent away for anything in my life, but I sent away for a compound fracture with a bloody eye." Along with a friend, Mr. Serneels asked for advice from theatrical makeup stores and learned how to hook his new toys to his body.

"We hooked up this compound fracture to my arm and went driving around," he said laughing. "We freaked a few people out with the fracture and all this blood running down my arm. I found an interest, and I kept playing. It ballooned from there. I've got multiple books from different makeup artists in the field. I don't really read the instructions. I look at the pictures and figure out how to do it."

Mr. Serneels did some makeup work last Hallowe'en for a costume store's customers in Hamilton in exchange for the use of some of the store's costumes for a film production.

"I did some cuts and scars," he said. "I made one guy to look like the phantom of the opera, and I did a tin man that I was quite proud of. I also did a wolf man." Mr. Serneels said he hopes, through the film and other courses, to have a future in doing makeup and special effects.

The haunted house, at 592 Steel St. in Port Colborne, attracted over 800 visitors last year, Mr. Dalcourt said. This year, donations are being accepted at the door for the United Way.

Mr. Dalcourt previously operated the house with his own money.

"I've never charged anything," said Mr. Dalcourt. "I've always done it as a hobby. Someone suggested I charge and I said no. Then someone suggested getting a charity involved, so I called the United Way, and they had no problem with that. If anyone wants to come through and not put in a donation, go on through anyway."

The walk through the house takes about 15 to 20 minutes. There are four displays: the crypt, the cave, the laboratory, and the last area is full of skulls and other scary things, like eyes that light up, he said. "Everything is controlled by an electric eye which is controlled by infra-red light, except the laboratory which is controlled by computer."

People involved with the project are volunteers. Mr. Dalcourt supplies anything they may need to do the work. Several local businesses volunteered their services when they learned about United Way's involvement.

Mr. Dalcourt started the haunted house because he was bored with Hallowe'en in his neighbourhood. "Nobody did anything for Hallowe'en," he said. "Everyone decks up for Christmas and Easter. I wanted to do something different for Hallowe'en."

He found out about Mr. Serneels through a friend, went to see his work and was impressed by it enough to ask him to help with the haunted house.

Mr. Dalcourt said masks cannot be worn while in the house for safety reasons.

The house will be open from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Hallowe'en night. For more information call Central Lighting at 732-6645.

New College phone system

Those wanting to reach out and touch someone at any Niagara College campus will have to check the new telephone directory.

The new telephone system, implemented on Monday, Oct. 21, led to a few changes.

Extension numbers are now four digit numbers, rather than three. For example, at the Welland campus, the number seven has been added to the beginning of the original extension numbers.

The extensions at the Niagara Falls campus now begin with the number three, and extensions at the St. Catharines campus begin with a two.

For local calls from any campus, dial nine before the phone number.

To put through a long distance call from any campus, dial eight-one and the phone number. The call will then go through, alleviating switchboard-handled connections.

Students are not allowed to make long distance calls without permission from the program co-ordinator.

Another change brought about by the new system is a recorded voice which comes on the phone line during incoming calls to inform callers they have reached the college. Following this, callers are entertained as music comes on the line and their call is connected.

Students' training helps other students

By SANDRA GOLDEN
Staff Writer

Elvira Lucas, co-ordinator of Niagara College's Educational Resources and Special Needs program, is a busy woman. If she's not teaching a class, she is out in the community doing a variety of things.

These include visiting settings students work in or secondary schools and adult programs to recruit more students. She also attends college information evenings.

In her office, she is usually on the phone arranging students' volunteer work or talking to one of her students.

Mrs. Lucas, employed at the college for 21 years, has been program co-ordinator for 17 years.

When the program was introduced provincially, a large percentage of Ontario colleges offered it. Niagara College's was the only one to survive. Two Ontario colleges have similar full-time programs; one offers a part-time course.

Niagara College's program is unique due to its dual focus. Students are trained to work as teacher's aides or assistants in residential settings and community-based programs. There is a waiting list.

"This year we had 250 applicants for the program which at one time only had a total of 15 in the entire program," said Mrs. Lucas. "Now first and second years total to 45 and 35. Our program survived because we had a vision and went with it."

Mrs. Lucas said in the 1970's, she read about similar courses in the United States. She said they were successful, and she knew that Canada would soon follow.

"We're training our students to work with special needs students and clients, whether in schools or in a wide variety of community based programs," said Mrs. Lucas. "It could be residential, group homes, work shops, or day programs for seniors with special needs. We have a graduate working in the special needs department, Caroline Gruhl, who was hired to work with the co-ordinator there in assisting with all of the needs of the students."

ELVIRA LUCAS

In addition to learning by doing, students learn to develop and write program and lesson plans along with a variety of other things. They are trained to work with children and adults with varying degrees of abilities and handicaps.

The placement of graduating students is varied. The training's focus is on clients aged six to senior citizens. Students are in work placements from the term's beginnning.

"There's work placement four semesters, four different places," said Mrs. Lucas.

Some of the second year students work on campus with vocational students, Ontario Basic Skills students, and some with the English as a Second Language students.

Mrs. Lucas advises students on waiting lists to come to the college, through general college or by night courses. "I encourage it," she said. "Doing work through general college and choosing appropriate psychology and English courses. I will also set them up with appropriate volunteer work. It shows a definite interest in the program."

The course application includes answering a questionnaire on life experiences and work as a volunteer in the community and for paid work. "It's certainly used as one measure," said Mrs. Lucas.

Placement after graduation is around 95 per cent. The remainder are likely people who are unable to work full time, said Mrs. Lucas. Such things as pregnancy or family responsibility can be some of the reasons, she added.

Mrs. Lucas said she is happy to discuss the program with anyone who is interested. For more information, she can be reached by calling Niagara College's Welland campus at extension 709. The office is in room S103.

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